

**Amendments to the Abstract**

**Please replace the original abstract with the enclosed substitute abstract.**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A video decoding apparatus exerts a control so as not to display unnatural pixel values when a stream having no pixel value but only shape values is decoded. A decoder decodes a video stream. When the video stream includes only the shape, object non-display information indicates "non display". Otherwise, the object non-display information indicates "display". When the object non-display information indicates "non display", a switch selects a shape value which does not display the color, obtained from a shape value generator. In other words, a shape value Aval indicating that this pixel is transparent and other videos are displayed as they are at composition.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

~~The present invention provides a~~ video decoding apparatus ~~which~~ exerts a control so as not to display unnatural pixel values when a stream having no pixel value but only shape values is decoded. A decoder ~~Dec1~~ decodes a video stream ~~Str~~. When the video stream ~~Str~~ includes only the shape, object non-display information ~~Bely~~ indicates "non display". Otherwise, the object non-display information ~~Bely~~ indicates "display". When the object non-display information ~~Bely~~ indicates "non display", a switch ~~SW0~~ selects a shape value which does not display the color, obtained from ~~the~~ a shape value generator ~~GEN1, i.e.,~~. In other words, a shape value Aval indicating that this pixel is transparent and other videos are displayed as they are at ~~the~~ composition.